

Roxbury, Jan. 23, 1872.

My dear Wendell:

The severe cold which your mother caught (we know not how) within the last month, bringing on something like congestion of the lungs, and threatening to end in pneumonia, is somewhat relieved; tho' she still has sharp neuralgic pains shooting through her system. Last night she had the first untroubled sleep for some weeks, and awake so refreshed this morning as to make us hope that she was delivered from her troubles. But the old pains have since returned, and she may again be cheated out of her rest. Dr. Geist still attends her. I have never known her spirits to be so depressed as they have been of late; partly, however, because for much of the time she has had no friends to visit her, and Miss Dow is not congenial companionship.

Ms. A. 1.1 v. 8, p. 11A

I am always alarmed when she is threatened with anything like congestion, but trust she will soon get complete relief.

I see that Filton, in this week's Golden Age, makes an invidious thrust at me; and reports me as assailing Mr. Phillips because he was in favor of prolonging the existence of the American A. S. Society! I shall send him a correction of his false charge.

I hope neither you nor Lucy was led to suppose, by my naming the price of ^{the} tea set that was sent to her, that I did so to imply any generosity on my part or William's. It was but a very trifling token of our love, and I would have augmented it if I had not known how extremely delicate are your feelings in regard to receiving anything of this nature from this quarter. I happened to name the price quite inconsiderately.

You would have made William much happier if you had allowed him to cancel the note in his possession, ~~but~~ in view of his remarkable success in business the past year, than you did in consenting that the interest should be waived; but I respect the motives which actuated you, though begging ^{you} never to feel that you can deal with a brother only as with an outside business man. Are we not one in all our feelings and interests?

I am still suffering from a severe attack of influenza and much inflammation of the spine; and losing a good deal of sleep in consequence of your mother's condition, I am feeling a ^{long} ~~good~~ ^{way} below par.

We shall be anxious to hear how your darling boys are getting along, and what is the exact nature of their sickness.

Love to Lucy, and Mr. and Mrs. Mc
Kim, and Charles. Your loving Father.

P. S. William desires me to express his regret that he has not been able to write to you, in consequence of the pain which he had to encounter by the applications of caustic to his right hand. He will make another effort soon. We all strongly desire to have you make us a visit. Cannot you arrange your office matters so as to gratify us in this ^{respect} matter?